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Das Überseeische Deutschland. Die Deutschen Kolonien in Wort und Bild. viii and 679 pp., 6 colored maps, 21 page plates, and 237 pictures from photographs in the text. Union Deutsche Verlags-gesellschaft, Stuttgart, Germany, 1902.

It is characteristic of many German geographical works of a popular nature that they are not superficial, but are written by trained geographers or advanced students who know the kinds of facts required to convey correct ideas of a country from its physical geography to its trade, and use these data with critical judgment. To mention the fact that among the eight men who have made this book are writers of international reputation like Dr. Karl Dove, of the University of Jena; Dr. Reineke, the explorer of the Samoan group; Dr. Seidel, of the *Deutsche Kolonial Zeitung*; Director Beck, of the New Guinea Company, and Captain F. Hutter, the explorer of the Cameroons, is to say that the book, if not exhaustive, is authoritative with respect to the large areas that form Germany's colonial empire. It has the advantage over earlier books covering much of the same ground that it describes most of the colonies in their present state of considerable advancement.

Honduras. Edited and compiled for the International Bureau of the American Republics by Alfred K. Moe, U. S. Consul at Tegucigalpa. 252 pp., 2 maps, illustrations and index. Government Printing Office, Washington, 1904.

Consul Moe has handled his data with considerable geographical discernment. His introductory chapter gives a very good idea of the geography of the country and of the influences exerted by geographical environment upon the distribution of population and the material development of the State. The control exercised by geographical and other influential factors is, however, not emphasized as might properly have been done, and it is unfortunate that the volume contains no physical map to illustrate the author's remarks on the great variety of topography and its manifold effects upon climate. The broader features of the mountains, plains, and lowlands might at least have been delineated as Sievers has done for Venezuela and Sapper for parts of Central America.

Lack of good means of transportation is one of the reasons for the very backward position of the Republic, and Consul Moe places first among the causes for its poor showing in trade "the rapacity of foreign promoters, especially Americans, who have obtained concessions merely for financial speculation and are humbugging both the natives and the American investors." There are two sketch

maps, one showing the distribution of resources and the other the telegraph system. The economic map is especially informing, but is most crudely produced. It might better have been used to supply the data for a good map. Neither map shows the Bay Islands, though they are one of the chief sources of export fruit.

La Nouvelle Zélande. By the Count de Courte. *vii and 268 pp., and 85 photographs.* Hachette & Co., Paris, 1904.

The author has been the French Consul in New Zealand. He is in love with the country in most of its aspects; describes the islands and their development with enthusiasm and in a manner that sustains interest, shows many fine photographs of land and people, and also a black map that is too small to serve the needs of careful readers of so large a book. His work is essentially popular, but the author aims, with a good degree of success, to convey accurate impressions of the Maoris, the white colonists, their various interests, and the geographic environment. Few works on New Zealand have been so copiously and beautifully illustrated.

Die Entwicklung Japans in den letzten fünfzig Jahren. By Otfried Nippold. *42 pp.* K. J. Wyss, Bern, 1904.

A lecture delivered before the Bern Geographical Society, in which the writer gives the facts of largest significance in the wonderful development of Japan, and emphasizes the idea that in spite of the Occidental science they have superficially acquired, or really assimilated, the Japanese remain through and through an Oriental people.

Italy from the Alps to Naples: Handbook for Travelers. By Karl Baedeker. *xlii and 424 pp., 26 maps, 44 plans, and index.* Karl Baedeker, Leipzig, 1904.

This guide-book has been compiled from the three detailed Baedeker volumes for Northern, Central and Southern Italy. It is designed for the use of travellers who have only four or five weeks to spend and wish to give most of their time to the attractions of Rome and Naples. The most conspicuous towns and parts of the country, famous for scenic or other attractions, are described at length, while the features of other districts are more summarily treated.

Richesses Minérales des Possessions Russes en Asie Centrale. A Report to the French Ministry of Public Instruction. By E.-D. Levat. *174 pp., 5 maps, and appendices.* Vve. Ch. Dunod, Paris, 1903.

The author, who is a mining engineer, was in charge of the mis-